

REMARKS

No new matter is added as a result of these amendments. The disc copy of the Sequence Listing in this application, is identical to the computer readable copy of the Sequence Listing filed in application U.S. 09/214,851 filed September 9, 1999. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.821(e), please use the last-filed computer readable form filed in that application as the computer readable form for the instant application. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary change in the application number and filing date for the instant application along with the present preliminary amendment.

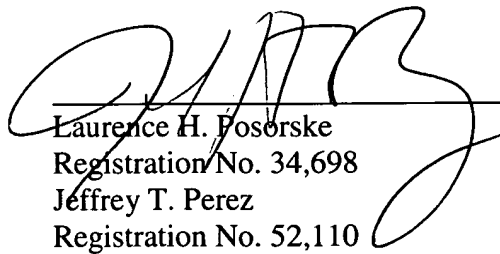
Applicants have also submitted an abstract on a separate sheet. Support for the changes may be found for instance on page 10, paragraph [062] through page 11, paragraph [064]; page 18, paragraph [098] through page 20, paragraph [105]; pages 22-23, paragraph [113], and throughout the application as originally filed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants assert that the above-referenced application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. Should any outstanding issues remain, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 202-955-1500.

Respectfully submitted,

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